

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SECTO 09023 240244Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----026396 240247Z /66
O 240211Z AUG 77 ZFF-6
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN PEKING
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTO 09023

NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, IR, IS

SUBJ: ISRAELI-IRAN ARMS CO-PRODUCTION

REF: TEHRAN 7517

1. IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST FOR MORE DETAILED CLARIFICATION OF MY DECISION, "LONG RANGE" REFERS TO THE 500 KM WEAPON AND NOT THE 75 KM WEAPON. I HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE 75 KM MISSILE.

2. YOU SHOULD TELL TOUFANIAN THAT OUR PRINCIPLE OBJECTION TO THE CO-PRODUCTION SCHEME IS THAT ISRAEL WOULD POSSESS A LONG RANGE MISSILE SYSTEM WHICH WOULD RAISE SIGNIFICANTLY THE LEVEL OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS AND AFFECT THE MILITARY BALANCE. THUS FAR BOTH THE US AND THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CURB THE APPETITES OF ISRAEL AND THE CONFRONTATION STATES FOR LONG-RANGE MISSILE SYSTEMS. IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE INDEED IF AT THIS POINT THIS LAST THRESHOLD WERE CROSSED AND THERE WAS COMPETITION IN MISSILE PROCUREMENT AS THERE HAS BEEN IN
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ADVANCED FIGHTER AIRCRAFT.

3. ALTHOUGH WE WOULD HAVE NO LEGAL GROUNDS TO BLOCK THE CO-PRODUCTION PROJECT IF THERE ARE NO US COMPONENTS OR TECHNOLOGY INVOLVED, YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE STRONGLY TO TOUFANIAN THAT SUCH A CO-PRODUCTION PLAN WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL TO THE PROSPECT OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE AN STABILITY. THE

US HAS SOUGHT AND OBTAINED IRANIAN COOPERATION IN THE PAST
ON THE ISSUE OF OBTAINING A JUST AND LASTING SETTLEMENT IN
THE MIDDLE EAST. THE CO-PRODUCTION SCHEME WOULD WORK
AGAINST SUCH A CRITICAL OBJECTIVE WHICH WE AND THE SHAH
HAVE SHARED FOR SUCH A LONG TIME.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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